## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 445 TWELFTH STREET SW WASHINGTON DC 20554

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**ENGINEER**: Dale Bickel

September 14, 2016

Golden Isles Broadcasting, LLC 205 Marina Drive St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Re: WSSI (FM), St. Simons Island, GA

Golden Isles Broadcasting, LLC Facility Identification Number: 36929

Special Temporary Authority

BSTA-20160908AAN

## Dear Licensee:

This is in reference to the request filed September 8, 2016, on behalf of Golden Isles Broadcasting, LLC ("GIB"). GIB explains that the Hurricane Hermine caused "structural failure" of the licensed antenna. GIB seeks Special Temporary Authority to operate WSSI with temporary, reduced facilities at the station's construction permit site.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

The request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WSSI may operate with the parameters specified in the STA request. GIB must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from radiofrequency exposure in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on March 13, 2017.

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STA Advisory: Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed

facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,

Dale Bickel Senior Engineer Audio Division Media Bureau

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cc: Sally A. Buckman (via e-mail only)